

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the eighth paragraph on page 3, continuing on page 4, with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 1 and 2 illustrate a perspective and a side view of an exemplary portable rechargeable electric lantern 102 according to the present invention. The lantern 102 has ~~a housing comprising~~ a handle 106 coupled to a first housing, such as base 108. The handle 106 may be provided with grooves on its underside. The grooves are sized and shaped to receive the fingers of a user and form finger grips 110 on the bottom side of the handle 106. The handle 106 may also be at least partially covered with a shock absorbent material or other material to improve the gripability of the handle 106.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 7 with the following amended paragraph:

For example, an AC input device may be provided on base 108. As shown in FIG.5, a rear of the base 108 defines a cavity 140 containing an AC connector, for example, AC prongs 142. The AC connector 142 is adapted to receive an AC input for recharging the power supply. An AC-to-DC adapter 144 is provided to convert the AC input into DC power for recharging the battery (FIGS. 3 and 5). The AC-to-DC adapter 144 may be of a known type, such as a standard wall cube or discrete circuit components arranged on a printed circuit board. The AC-to-DC adapter 144 is preferably arranged within base 108.

Please replace the third paragraph on page 7 continuing on page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

Additionally, the AC-to-DC adapter 144 is substantially enclosed by a ~~first~~ second housing. The ~~first~~ second housing encloses the adapter circuitry and may be, for example, the housing of a wall cube. The AC-to-DC adapter 144 and its housing should meet the applicable standards for power units such as those promulgated by Underwriters Laboratory, for example UL 1310 standard for power units and UL 94 V1 standard for fire rating. AC-to-DC adapter 144 is also arranged

within an exterior housing, such as base 108. The AC-to-DC adapter circuit is thus substantially enclosed by two housings. ~~The first~~ One housing may be housing 144 that may be part of a standard wall cube adapter. ~~The second~~ Another housing may be the housing for the lantern or other light source. Incorporating the AC-to-DC adapter 144 along with its adapter housing internal to the lantern housing allows the lantern to meet applicable UL standard without the need for the entire lantern housing to be rated.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 8, with the following amended paragraph:

Battery Power supply 130 is preferably permanently coupled to the AC to DC adapter 144. AC connector 142 is adapted to be plugged into one end of a typical household extension cord. An opposite end of the extension cord with a plug is adapted to be plugged into a typical wall outlet. When an AC power cable is connected between an AC power source, for example, a wall outlet, and to the AC connector 142, the battery power supply 130 within the base 108 is recharged. Accordingly, the user may advantageously use any standard household extension cord to plug the lantern into a standard wall outlet for recharging, rather than having to use a custom-made power cord having an external AC-to-DC adapter.